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December 13 - December 19, 1995

INSIDE

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Mfume to head NAACP

WASHINGTON, DC—The National Education Association (NEA) is mounting a fresh effort to inform the public about the effects massive proposed cuts in the federal education budget could have on children and the nation's future.

In its "Campaign for Children and Education," the Association is calling on NEAs 2.2 million members—teachers and others who work in the field of education—to share information with colleagues, parents and local leaders on the direct impact the \$36 billion in education and training cuts will have in their states and communities.

NEA President Kim Geiger is urging citizens to share their concerns with their congressional representatives.

"As the federal budget process moves forward, opinion polls are beginning to reflect a public concern that Congress is trying to balance the budget and provide new tax breaks for the wealthy on the back of children and families," Geiger noted.

"The issue," Geiger said, "is whether we want to pay now or pay later—what the cuts will do to our quality of life in the long run. Education is an investment that must be ongoing. Here's where the budget axe will fall in the next year alone," Geiger enumerated:

- More than \$1 billion is being slashed from Title I basic skills help.
- The human impact? Extra help in reading, writing, and math to 1.1 million children will be erased.

- Assistance for Safe and Drug-Free Schools will be cut by 60 percent.
- The Pell Grant and Perkins Loan programs will be slashed. Human impact? Grants to 360,000 low-income students and loans to 150,000 additional young men and women will be eliminated, denying thousands of high school graduates opportunities to gain a college education.

- Goals 2000, a bipartisan program to improve the nation's schools, will become largely a rhetorical exercise, with nearly \$400 million cut.
- Human impact? Students at 17,000 schools now implementing the goals will lose out in reforms aimed at improving teaching and learning.

• School-to-work funding will be cut 18 percent.

Thousands of students seeking the skills to enter tomorrow's workplace won't get the help they need. "At a time when school enrollments are on the rise, how can we effectively prepare today's youth and other citizens for the more demanding jobs of the future with fewer resources? How can we succeed in the global marketplace?" Geiger asked.

"What we have in this massive

as-welding is a formula for lowering our standard of living. What kinds of values do we reflect as a society when we cut assistance to children and families to finance giveaways to the wealthy?"

Geiger added that while the gutting of federal support for education will be felt most immediately by those who have school-age children or students in college, every citizen suffers when support for education declines.

"Whether or not we have children in school, all of us depend on schools to help prepare students to become productive citizens. All of us must share our message loudly: Make a real investment in the future—choose children and education, he concluded.

UNICEF proposes anti-war agenda

LONDON—The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has announced a major anti-war initiative in support of the world's children.

Speaking at a London press conference to launch the 1996 *State of the World's Children Report*, UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy proposed a ten-point action oriented anti-war agenda which comprises concrete measures to alleviate the impact of warfare on children.

Addressing issues ranging from conflict prevention and psychological rehabilitation of children to landmines and sanctions, the UNICEF agenda is a bold reassertion of humanitarian values and a call to action for the world's community.

"Wars are not going to disappear, but we can at least mitigate their effects and ensure that they do not target children," explains Bellamy. "To that end, this anti-war agenda sets out a series of steps that we believe to be both realistic and effective and that would dramatically improve the well-being of children in situations of conflict."

In particular, the agenda includes a call for a universal ban on the

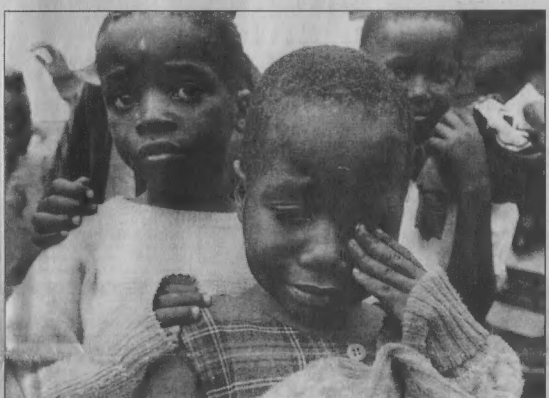
production, use, stockpiling, sale, and export of anti-personnel landmines and commits UNICEF to an organizational boycott of any company involved in the manufacture or sale of landmines.

UNICEF calls for a "Child Impact Assessment" prior to the application of sanctions and breaks-in-the-trade, grounded by insisting that the concept of "Children as Zones of Peace" should be elevated to a tenet of international law.

"Children as Zones of Peace" involves the establishment of geographical or time zones within which children can be protected from harm and provided with the essential services to ensure their survival and well-being in the midst of conflict.

The agenda demands that increased investment be made in conflict prevention activities and in efforts towards reconciliation and rehabilitation.

A cornerstone of rehabilitation must be the provision of psychosocial trauma programs to help heal the emotional wounds of children affected by war. UNICEF also argues for special protection and support for



Rwandese children, uprooted by war. Civil war in Rwanda separated some 114,000 children from their parents. UNICEF is helping to reunite children with their families.

women and girls because of the likelihood of sexual violence in wartime.

The anti-war agenda is set forth in UNICEF's 1996 *State of the World's Children Report* which provides a comprehensive description and analysis of the situation of children

and children tortured, slaughtered and

brutalized into becoming gun-toting killers themselves.

The report highlights the increasingly damaging impact of warfare on children and the prospect for further

See ANTI-WAR AGENDA page 10

on Sunday, December 10 selected Representative Kweisi Mfume of Maryland as its chief executive.

Mfume, 47, was chosen at a Washington, DC meeting of the organization's board of directors to fill the position which has been empty for more than two years as a result of the dismissal of former executive Director Benjamin Chavis.

"I am absolutely honored to have been chosen for this opportunity," Mfume said at a news conference on Sunday. He promised to restore the

See MFUME HEADS NAACP page 10

Year-end freeholder report issued

NEWARK—Essex County Freeholder President Joseph DiVincenzo has released the contents of a year-old report he is making available to the public that outlines the cost savings measures and summarizes the major actions taken by the Board of Freeholders this year.

The report, a four-page brochure, is a new initiative taken by DiVincenzo to make the public more aware of the work of the Freeholder Board. Entitled *The Essex County Board of Freeholders 1995 President's Report*, it will be mailed to community activists and people who have had contact with the Board, and will be available to any member of the public who requests it. Copies of the report can be obtained from the Freeholder office or by calling 201-621-4486.

Elizabeth passes resolution to save children

ELIZABETH—Consistent with the goals and objectives set by the Joint City-Million Man March Coalition, the Elizabeth branch of the local organizing committee (LOC), has endorsed the "Save Our Children" week scheduled for December 11 through 17. A resolution was passed by the Elizabeth City Council also endorsing this effort.

Rev. Ed Townsend, of the LOC is asking all those who participated in the march and those who didn't.

See RESOLUTION/page 10

Gingrich to be investigated

WASHINGTON, DC—A major step on the ladder to becoming a Republican powerhouse and eventually Speaker of the House was Newt Gingrich's kicking the ladder out from under Democratic Speaker Jim Wright of Texas. He accused

See GINGRICH/page 10

WASHINGTON, DC—Bruce C. Vladeck, administrator of the Health Care Administration (HCFA) announced on Friday, December 1, World AIDS Day, that New Jersey is among four states that the HCFA is working with to inform pregnant women of the benefits of HIV counseling and voluntary testing.

The initiative is also geared toward educating HIV-infected women about the value of treatment with AZT in reducing transmission of the AIDS virus to their babies and is based on the results of landmark research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

That research indicated that treating HIV-positive women with AZT during pregnancy and childbirth and administering the drug to newborns for six weeks can reduce the risk of HIV transmission from mother to

child by 67 percent.

Following the NIH-supported findings, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued guidelines last July calling on medical professionals to offer routine HIV testing to inform pregnant women of the benefits of HIV counseling and voluntary testing.

"The NIH research holds out great hope to HIV-positive women to protect their children. Our new initiative will help give women the power to put that science to work," said Vladeck.

HCFA selected the four states—Delaware, Florida, New Jersey and Rhode Island—because of their high percentage of Medicaid beneficiaries and high rates of HIV-infection among women of childbearing age.

The projects will provide women with informational materials—in-

cluding videos, brochures, and posters—regarding the benefits of voluntary HIV counseling and testing, and use of AZT.

To ensure that Medicaid-eligible women will have complete access to counseling and testing as well as AZT therapy, HCFA has sent letters to each state Medicaid director stressing the importance of these services. A HCFA survey of 11 states with the highest rates of HIV infection among women of childbearing age shows that all of the states questioned pay for these services.

Medicaid currently provides coverage to 9 million women of childbearing age. An estimated 32,000 of those women are believed to be HIV-positive. Approximately 7,000 HIV-positive women give birth in the U.S. each year; Medicaid covers about 3,000 of them and many of

the remaining 4,000 would likely be eligible if they were to apply.

Until recently, about one in four infants born to HIV-positive women became infected themselves. AZT therapy can potentially reduce that rate to one in 12.

"Medicaid covers nearly 90 percent of persons under age 18 who are infected with HIV," Vladeck noted. "HCFA is vitally interested in preventing HIV transmission in this most vulnerable group."

While highlighting the medical benefits of AZT therapy for HIV-positive pregnant women, HCFA recognizes that the decision of whether to undergo such therapy is personal and private, involving many factors that can only be considered by a woman with advice from her health care providers.

The HCFA initiative stresses the

rights and prerogative of women to make these treatment decisions.

Other HCFA consumer information initiatives deal with flu shots and screening mammography for Medicare beneficiaries. These initiatives, and others under development, seek to inform and educate Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries of treatment options and preventive health care services.

In New Jersey, Medicaid beneficiaries and providers will receive information about the benefits of HIV testing during pregnancy and about AZT therapy. The New Jersey Department of Health estimates that 125 HIV-infected babies are born each year to HIV-infected mothers.

The New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services

See INFANTS/page 10

Black Press snubbed—again

by Tyrone ZX

WASHINGTON, DC—Members of the black media have criticized a program held by the American Union (AU) Communications Department in Washington, DC recently. Entitled "After the O.J. Simpson trial and the March: Race and the Media," the program included civic leaders, journalists, and a packed audience—the Black Press.

Heidi "Tex" Carter, the media's coverage of the O.J. Simpson trial and the Oct. 16 Million Man March, panelists included Washington Urban League President Madeline Cooney, news anchor Maureen Bunyan

of WUSA-TV; Clarence Page, columnist, *Columbia Tribune*; New York Times columnist Andrew Rossenhal; National Public Radio's Ray Suarez; Washington Post staff writer Lonnar Adams and the Dean of AU's communication department Sanford Ungar who moderated the program. No black media organizations were invited.

"We made a decision to talk about race and the mainstream media in America. Maybe that was the wrong decision...but we made a decision to talk about how these issues are portrayed in the mainstream media. It was not meant to be an exclusionary organizers said.

"As the old saying goes, 'they still don't get it,'" said Bill Reed, executive director of the National Newspaper Publisher Association, the umbrella group for over 200 black newspapers.

"After the Marion Barry trial, after the Million Man March and after the O.J. Simpson trial, they continue to go to the same sources to get opinions on what black America is doing."

He said Clarence Page was out of touch with blacks and Maureen Bunyan, "does not live in the black community, does not work in the black community and knows nothing

about the black community."

Frances Murphy, owner and publisher of *The Afro-American* chain of newspapers, criticized AU's use of the term "mainstream media" as an "insult" and "a put down."

"They [whites] have coined words to put us into a box...that's why they do that," Murphy said. "They are no more mainstream than anybody else. The weekly press is as important as the daily press."

According to Reed, mainstream media "means media owned, oriented towards and for white people." He added that the Black Press should have been invited to American

University's program, especially since it was the white press who were most antagonistic towards O.J. Simpson and the Million Man March.

Reed added that until whites "turn the page" and "listen to other voices" they will continue holding such forums, examining their media coverage and bringing in those which he called "resident experts" on race and black America.

American University is well-known for its national forums on media and politics which are frequently broadcast on national cable networks. The evening discussion was broadcast on National Public Radio.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ATTENTION
PLAINFIELD—Black Business Association of Plainfield is announcing its annual Christmas Toy Drive. Drop off toys available throughout the city. Current stations are T.C. Screen Printers & The United Fund Center. Anyone wishing to be a drop off station call Eliot Simmons at 908-757-3235.

THRU DEC. 24
WAYNE—Volunteers needed for Holiday Gift Wrapping booth for the Arthritis Foundation. For more info call 201-985-0100.

THRU JANUARY
EAST ORANGE—The city of East Orange hosts its annual coat drive to help those in need. For more info call 201-269-5334.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
LINCOLN—African American Heritage Series at Brookdale Community College is offering an evening bus trip to Sylvia's Restaurant followed by Amaretto Night at the Apollo. For more info call 908-224-2890.

DECEMBER 13 & 14
JERSEY CITY—Aspiring Chefs can now register for courses at Hudson County Community College's Culinary Arts Institute. For more info call 714-2193.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14
WEST ORANGE—1995 Holiday Party for seniors at Mayfair Farms Restaurant.

hosted by the Saint Sabas and Union Hospital Senior Health members. The event starts at 12 noon, call 908-964-0444 for ticket and transportation info.

NEWARK—Branch Brook School will host a holiday luncheon for Newark's senior citizens who attend the Vincent Lombardi Center. For more info call 201-733-7338.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15
NEWARK—Councilwoman Mildred C. Crump will host Public Hearing on Lead Poisoning, with special guest speaker Jack Anderson. 1 p.m. at City Council Chambers, City Hall, 2nd Floor.

MONTCLAIR—The Urban League of Essex County Ultra Center II is hosting Job-Skills Training Workshops. For more info call 201-746-2641.

Monday, December 18
PLAINFIELD—Jennifer Wiggins will tell about the services available to you through the Community Health Law Project - "Friend Advocate." For more info call 908-753-3506.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19
NEWARK—Branch Brook school presents the Second Annual Family Dinner. For more info call 201-733-7338.

Lee and Campbell honored by Giblin Association

CALDWELL—The Giblin Association, a civic group dedicated to improvement of community life recently held its Annual Charity Breakfast at the Mayfair Farms in West Orange. As part of the breakfast the group honored several Newark residents for their dedicated community service.

Among those honored were Dorothea Lee and former Superintendent of schools Eugene Campbell.

"It is very important for every citizen to take an interest in the people and organizations that give more of themselves to make each of their communities a better place to live," said George F. Semonec, President of the Giblin Association.

In addition to the awards, the association presented a \$500 contribution each to four New Jersey charities. The organizations are: Black and Latino Coalition; The Hospice; Irish Famine Memorial Fund and SHARE, New Jersey.

According to the organization's standard-bearer, Thomas P. Giblin, "Each charity and honororee chosen has made a real difference in their respective community. It makes me very proud to be part of an association that can give something back to those who give of themselves."



Dorothea Lee



Eugene Campbell



Making a difference in New Jersey's future

NEWARK—Pictured at the recent March of Dimes Community Service Awards are (l to r): Dennis Baldassari, president and chief operating officer of Jersey Central Power & Light; Cissy Houston, president and chief executive officer of the Whitney Young Foundation for Children; Patricia Clark, co-chairman of the event and president of Special Efforts Public Relations in Newark; and Kenneth Calao, a principal officer with York Hunter in Newark. Baldassari, Houston and Calao were each honored for their outstanding civic and professional contributions to the Garden State. The event raises money to fund March of Dimes programs and services to give babies a better chance to start life healthy.

(Photo courtesy of March of Dimes)

Witherspoon named state coordinator of Pan-Hellenic Council

PETERSON—Wayne Witherspoon of Paterson has recently been appointed New Jersey State Coordinator for the Pan-Hellenic Council. In that position Witherspoon will coordinate the activities of the eight major Greek-Letter sororities fraternities: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Sigma Gamma Rho, Zeta Phi Beta, and Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Phi Beta Sigma and Omega Psi Phi.



Kirkland completes executive program at NJIT

NEWARK—Keith Kirkland of Newark accepts a Master of Science in Management diploma from Saul K. Fenster, president of NJIT. Kirkland, an administrator at Essex County College, participated in the Executive Program, an accelerated 14-month master's-level management degree program designed to meet the needs of executives and their employers.



Annual holiday dinner for senior center members

PLAINFIELD—On Thursday, December 14, the Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center will hold its annual holiday dinner for center members. The Center will open that day at 1 p.m. with transportation pick-ups starting at 3 p.m. Dinner will be 6-8 p.m., followed by a night of dancing from 6 to 10 p.m.

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National News at a glance

FBI NAMES BLACK WOMAN AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Carolyn G. Morris has become the highest-ranking black woman in the history of the FBI. Morris, 56, now heads the FBI's Information Resources Division and has a \$200 million annual budget and supervises more than 2,000 employees. —WASHINGTON, DC

LEGISLATOR SAYS CORPORATIONS NEED TO RESPOND BETTER TO BLACKS

New York Assemblyman Albert Vann at a recent meeting told the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) that, "All major corporations earn a portion of their income from the African-American community. Yet, African-American do not receive from corporations a proportionate share of corporate purchases of goods and services, corporate donations and grants or even corporate hiring and promotions." Vann, chair of the NBCSL's Task Force on Black Consciousness and Corporate Responsibility, said, "We are not talking about affirmative action, we are talking about reciprocity. If our community purchases 20 percent of a company's products and services, then 20 percent of that company's corporate donations and grants should be to African Americans. Businesses should reciprocate because it is fair and more important because it is good business sense. As legislators, we cannot advocate that our constituents purchase from and support companies that make money in our communities but are unwilling to do business with those who do business with them." —NEW YORK

HOLYFIELD SAYS HE'LL BE BACK

Atlanta's Evander Holyfield, ex-heavyweight champion, has said he'll fight through 1996 despite boxing officials' concerns in his eight-round knockout by Riddick Bowe last year. "My heart's here, I'm OK," says Holyfield. "My problem was the virus I contracted two, three weeks before the fight affected my stamina. So why not still do what I'm doing? This is what the Lord has for me. I've got through the year 1996 to fight, so why quit?" Holyfield says he'll fight anyone who wants to, including Mike Tyson. —WASHINGTON, DC

N'COBRA ISSUES STATEMENT ON CASE FOR REPARATIONS

N'COBRA, a Washington, DC-based group lobbying for reparations for African Americans says, "Our call for reparations is a call for justice. Specifically, we want the United States to 1) hold public hearings and pass the reparations legislation that is already in Congress; 2) sanction the actions of taxpayers to voluntarily designate a percentage of their tax dollars to begin the development of a reparations fund and 3) provide emergency reparations payments and the autonomy necessary for black people to meaningfully address the current situation in our community related to crime, incarceration and lack of business opportunities. Reparations will take several forms besides money." —WASHINGTON, DC

YOUTH ARRESTS ARE UP, SAYS FBI

"An impending crime wave of teen violence is facing us as the adolescent population begins to rise in America. There are 39 million children under age 10, more than we've had for decades," says an FBI report. The report showed that the number of teenagers under 18 arrested for murder rose 158.3 percent from 1985 to 1994. The report says efforts to reduce juvenile crime need to be "aimed at the prime time for juvenile crime. Forty percent of juvenile offenses occur between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Parents aren't home, neighbors aren't home, schools are closed, and after-school programs are shut. They have too much time to kill, in more ways than

Gore pledges increased focus on blacks and Africa

by William Reed

WASHINGTON, DC—In a recent White House meeting with Washington, DC-based African-American journalists, Vice President Al Gore pledged a renewed focus by the Clinton administration on increasing trade ties between U.S. blacks and Southern African business.

"The U.S. market is already large and is growing rapidly. But the ending of apartheid and the establishment of democracy in the Southern African region has unleashed this new interest for African-American businesses," Gore told black journalists prior to his departure for South Africa.

In the Clinton administration's attempts to increase its focus on Africa and show up its image and support among African Americans, Gore announced that he was to be accompanied to Africa by several prominent African Americans, including U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary and businessman Robert L.

Johnson of Black Entertainment Television, Earl Graves of *Black Enterprise* Magazine and Eugene Jackson of the Atlanta-based Unity Broadcasting Network.

Secretary Brown and the black businessmen are members of the Bi-national Commission, a panel of government and business officials established last March by Gore and South African Vice President Thabo Mbeki to regularize relations in fields such as investment, agriculture, tourism and outer space.

South Africa, America's largest trading partner in Africa, is considered by U.S. officials as a major emerging market.

According to the vice president, secretaries Brown, O'Leary and former U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy have already laid the ground work for increased trade between African Americans and Africans.

"We have already been engaged on many levels of exchange, including trade, housing development, fast-food and soft-drink enterprises,

as well as textiles products. And we intend to full speed in the coming months," pledged the vice president.

No figures were provided by the Vice President on the number of U.S. black businesses doing trade in southern Africa. But Gore did indicate that the increased focus on trade ties is attributed to "a number of complaints we've received from black business leaders in the U.S., regarding trade with South Africa."

Since South Africa dismantled the racist policy of apartheid two years ago, Gore and Mbeki have formed the "Bi-national Commission," whose main goal is to increase trade ties between the countries.

"We've come to the full understanding that the success of the new South Africa, from apartheid to a non-racial democracy, will certainly be able to exert a leverage of influence in the world," Gore said.

"If we, the U.S., can assist South Africa in making that transition successfully, then that'll be good for us," he added and went on to praise South Africa's advancement in the techno-

logical world. "Such development can be sustained throughout the continent and I believe the U.S. wants to be a partner in that effort."

South Africa's economy, while growing at three percent a year, is still burdened by an unemployment rate of at least 35 percent—engendered in part by deprivation of education and training to blacks under apartheid.

Gore is expected to announce in South Africa the creation of 50 U.S.-sponsored economics scholarships for

South African students. Gore also noted that the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and the struggle against apartheid in South Africa are similar, and because of that, "such similarity can be transformed into the business world. When the U.S. and South Africa collaborate together, the possibilities are great for both of us."

The U.S. is South Africa's largest aid donor—having committed \$600 million over three years.

South Africa and Peace Corps sign volunteer agreement

PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA—Vice President Al Gore and South African Deputy President Thabo Mbeki recently signed an agreement that will send Peace Corps volunteers to South Africa.

The signing comes in the wake of plans announced last October by President Clinton and South African president Nelson Mandela during a ceremony at the White House.

"This is a partnership of historic significance," said Peace Corps Director Mark Cogan. "Standing volunteers to South Africa is a very important step for the Peace Corps and for the people of the United

States. By living and working at the grass roots level, Peace Corps volunteers can help further strengthen the personal ties between Americans and South Africans."

South Africa represents the 131st country the Peace Corps has entered in its 34-year history. Currently more than 2,500 Peace Corps volunteers are working in 36 African countries.

Since 1961, over 140,000 volunteers have served throughout the world. Over 7,200 volunteers serve in 95 countries in such areas as small business development, environment, education, health and nutrition, and agriculture.

Senate approves bill to expand affordable housing

TRENTON—The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee recently approved a bill (A-1483) cosponsored by Assemblyman Gerald B. Green which would expand the amount of affordable rental housing in the state.

"Despite improvements in home sales, we remain behind in the probable cases, and improve services to prevent medical neglect of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions," said Governor Pataki.

Pataki awards \$1.8 million for at-risk children and families

NEW YORK, NY—New York Governor George Pataki has announced the award of \$1.8 million in grants to 27 non-profit organizations serving New York State's at-risk children and families.

According to Pataki, the funds will strengthen the state's network of child protective and family violence intervention and prevention services. The grants will supplement existing efforts to provide safety and temporary services to families and children who are most at risk.

"These funds will support family violence prevention and services, help improve the handling of child sexual abuse cases, and improve services to prevent medical neglect of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions," said Governor Pataki.

In selecting programs for funding, the Department of Social Services used a new approach called "Outcome Funding," which focuses on specific measurable results in making funding decisions.

"Outcome Funding is an innovative way to ensure that we invest our resources in programs that can achieve the most effective results. It is critical that the state gets the greatest results possible for the funds available," said Governor Pataki.

Acting Social Services Commissioner Brian J. Wing said programs selected for funding will be required to develop performance-based contracts in which payment is made for successfully accomplishing established goals.

The grants are being made available through three federal funding programs in the following categories:

- Federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Grant: Approximately \$1,450,000 in Federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funds were awarded to 24 domestic violence agencies, representing 19 counties plus New York City.

- Act Grant: Federal Children's Justice Assistance Act totaling \$275,000 will establish a statewide Child Advocacy Resource and Referral Center to be operated by Victim Services, Inc. (NYC). The center will provide technical assistance, training and networking opportunities for communities with established multidisciplinary teams to handle child abuse and neglect cases, or communities wishing to develop such a team approach.

- National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect Disasters Initial Grant: \$90,000 was awarded to two projects to improve families' access to necessary social and health services. The programs will help prevent medical neglect of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions.

duction of rental housing, said Green (D-Middlesex/Somerset/Union). "This measure will stimulate the production of affordable rental units through the creative use of a limited amount of public funding."

The bill provides for the creation of a Rental Housing Incentive Guarantee Program composed of \$10 million assembled from the Economic Development Authority, federal funds or the Housing Development and Demonstration grant program.

Applicants will be able to apply for a loan guarantee of up to \$300,000 for a single project of 25 or fewer units or a portion of a larger project not exceeding 25 units.

According to Green, eligible developers include individuals, corporations, nonprofit organizations or

governmental bodies. Guarantees may also be sought for mixed-use projects.

"The program will employ a small amount of public funding to attract and leverage a larger private sector investment," said Green. "Assuring the participation of financial institutions in a proposed project affords a confidence level sufficient to justify the investment of scarce public dollars as guarantees rather than as direct loans."

"Language in the bill provides for definition of low and moderate income families," said Green. "This assures that the guarantees will be used for the purpose intended which will, hopefully, be the creation of at least 750 new or renovated low and moderate income rental units."

Drug companies developing 110 AIDS medicines

WASHINGTON, DC—America's pharmaceutical research companies have 110 new AIDS medicines in development, according to a survey we still have on file.

Among the medicines found in the survey are 34 that had not yet been identified in previous surveys. "We still have on file," we see a remarkable surge in drug company AIDS research," said Gerald J. Moisinghoff, president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, which released the survey results.

Over the last 12 months, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved two new AIDS medicines. In addition, an Federal Drug Administration (FDA) advisory committee has recommended two more for approval, including the first protease inhibitor new class of AIDS drugs.

The FDA has so far approved 30 drugs for AIDS and AIDS-related conditions. It takes an average of 15 years and some \$400 million to bring a drug from the laboratory to the pharmacy.

Free sample copies of the survey report for AIDS and AIDS-related conditions are available by writing PhRMA, 1100 15th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America represents the country's leading research-based pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Investing more than \$15 billion a year in discovering and developing new medicines, PhRMA companies are the source of nearly all new drug discoveries worldwide.



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EDITORIAL

NAACP Selects Mfume

Recently, the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) appointed Representative Kwesi Mfume of Maryland as its chief executive. Mr. Mfume has demonstrated his leadership and style. We congratulate the Board on his selection and call on the entire organization to unify behind the board and focus on the issues that confront people of color in this nation.

Likewise, we call on the community to stand behind and with the NAACP. Without question the organization needs to be re-engineered and designed to meet the challenges of the future that are ahead for people of African descent.

With Evers-Williams and now Mfume, the NAACP is beginning to demonstrate its ability to grow with the needs of the organization and the people it represents. We believe that the NAACP can once again be the champion of civil rights for black people. We believe that it can return to helm of the consciousness of America as we move into the twenty-first century squarely focused on economic development, education, jobs and housing.

The 40th anniversary of the Montgomery bus boycott

Dear editor:

As an active supporter of the Civil Rights movement in my own state of South Carolina, I was especially pleased to join in this special salute to Mrs. Rosa Parks in the commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the historic Montgomery Bus Boycott.

There are very few women in African history who have had such far-reaching and dramatic impact in changing the course of history as Mrs. Rosa Parks did on December 1, 1955. North American journalist Louis Lomax wrote that, "The Negro revolt began at the moment Mrs. Rosa Parks refused to move to the rear of the Cleveland Avenue bus in downtown Montgomery on December 1, 1955."

Mrs. Parks acted as an individual African-American citizen who became sick and tired of the Jim Crow ordinance which required black citizens to occupy seats in the rear of the bus and reserved seats in the front for whites only. This set the stage for a young unheralded 27-year-old Baptist preacher to enter the center stage of American history by helping to organize the Montgomery Improvement Association and coordinating the 38-day bus boycott. This, indeed, was the genesis of the new prophet of freedom for God's oppressed people, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The success of this "direct action" protest was a catalyst for the civil rights movement in the South and in America. It pricked the conscience of all Americans, attracted support from all sections and sectors of the American populace, and inspired a Democratic President, a Southerner, Lyndon Baines Johnson, to lead the American people from the long, dark, shameful shadows of sanctioned racial segregation and discrimination into the dawn of a new day of freedom and equal opportunity for millions of African-American citizens.

That December 1, 1955 date in Montgomery has become an important chapter in America's own journey to make the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights a meaningful reality to all its citizens. And America today is a much better country as a result of the heroic efforts of Mrs. Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Andrew Young, John Lewis, Jesse Jackson and the other heroes and heroines of the Civil Rights and Non-Violence movement.

We still have some miles to go along this journey, however, before fully realizing Dr. King's dream of an American society in which all people are judged on the basis of their character and not the color of their skin, a mutual people united in mutual respect and understanding.

Don Fowler

Chairman of the Democratic National Committee

Plan to regulate tobacco advertising violates free speech

by Oscar J. Coffey, Jr.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is currently taking steps to restrict the advertising and promotion of cigarettes. If the FDA has its way, actions not only would limit how retailers can sell legal products but also how media can advertise them.

These restrictions include banning tobacco brand name event sponsorships, as well as prohibiting the use of tobacco brand names on items such as T-shirts, caps and lighters. The FDA also wants to dictate the form and content of print advertisements for tobacco products.

Taken as a whole, the proposed restrictions constitute a nearly unprecedented assault on individual freedom. Clearly, the FDA has overstepped its bounds, as it lurches clumsily forward on its anti-tobacco crusade, trampling on the First Amendment of the United States Constitution in the process.

The FDA claims its actions are

inspired by a desire to discourage underage smoking. But this explanation does not hold up under even casual scrutiny.

Virtually everyone, including the tobacco companies, agrees that minors should not smoke. The major companies have even launched a multi-million dollar advertising campaign against underage smoking.

But controlling underage smoking should be the responsibility of parents and educators—not government agencies. Studies indicate that the battle against teen smoking is succeeding. Underage smoking has already declined dramatically, particularly among black teenagers.

According to a study published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* in April 1995, the smoking rate among black teens dropped from 26.8 percent in 1976 to 4.4 percent in 1993. (During the same period, smoking among white teens fell from 28.8 percent to 22.9 percent.)

Furthermore, other studies have shown that there is no correlation whatsoever between advertising and youthful smoking habits. To pretend that there is—as the FDA is doing—is false, misleading and ultimately unfair.

Perhaps the FDA's time would be better spent investigating the reasons that so many young blacks are deciding not to smoke, rather than in attempting to bully its way into control of an area where it has heretofore had no jurisdiction.

There are other reasons why the FDA's plan seems foolhardy. Last year, Canada instituted a law, called the Tobacco Products Control Act, which severely restricted advertising and promotion of tobacco products in much the same way the FDA envisions doing in America. The Canadian Supreme Court recently struck down that law, finding that it violated their constitution's right to free ex-

by Connie Woodruff

Gayle Chaneyfield has been sworn in as Newark's newest council member and, as predicted by many, the 30-something fledgling politician hit the ground running.

According to insiders, Chaneyfield is expected to be stingy with her vote until she gets the lay of the land and a handle on how business is conducted by the council. At the beginning of her two-year term she may do a lot of abstaining. But be forewarned, councilwoman-at-large Chaneyfield is a quick learner.

She had only been on the job for a few days when she raised eyebrows, suspicions and hackles among some veteran City Hallers by refusing the free lunch routinely provided for councilmen, their aides and an assortment of senior admin-

istrators in the mayor's office and other departments.

Chaneyfield politely but firmly refused the free lunch, paying for herself and staff. While two other councilmen and nearly a dozen staff members dined at taxpayers' expense on sandwiches from Hobby's Deli that are a meal within themselves with a price tag to prove they are a gourmet delight.

If Gayle is surprised at the reaction of colleagues and veterans who have eaten out of the public trough for years, she will be astonished to learn she is already considered an "outsider"—a public servant who could endanger the system of assuring elected and administrative officials the good life, courtesy of absentee taxpayers.

The beautiful truth is Ms. Chaneyfield had very little help from the denizens of City Hall, except for

councilwoman Mildred Crump who chose to vote for Chaneyfield instead of Bessie Walker in the Nov. 7 special election.

If Chaneyfield, an administrator at Babyday Day Care Center a program under the aegis of New Community Corporation, was looking for a challenging experience, she will get her wish as a Newark council member. There's a lot for her to learn about city government and how it works. It won't take her long to find out free meals for city officials written into Newark's city budget are just the tip of the iceberg of the goodies just for the asking.

In the 1995 budget the council allocated itself \$45,000 for meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner.) Mayor James' meal budget is \$10,000, another \$50,000 for City Clerk Robert Marascio and up to \$35,000 for meals

is divided among 33 other city departments and divisions as budgeted items.

The matter how one views this expense, that's a whole lot of winning and dining, but when the taxpayers pick up the tab, who's to worry?

Some councilmen eat the free meals more than others, especially those who spend the better part of their days on the third floor where council offices are located. Chances are these folks will be adamantly opposed to cutting back on meal allocations at up and coming budget hearings. Neither will they be willing to reduce their expense accounts and travel to conventions that have little to do with enhancing their skills to govern a city like Newark.

In her campaign Chaneyfield

See AS I SEE IT page 10

THE PASTOR'S WORD

by Revs. Reginald T. Jackson & Ruford S. Wheeler

As a result of the Million Man March, the New Jersey Million Man March Southern Coalition has put together an agenda of action for the upcoming year. This agenda, while broad-based, is restrictive enough to be implemented and see some tangible results.

One area which we intend to pursue and be involved in is with our children's education. The future of our families and communities in large measure will be determined by the quality of our children's education.

With good education they will have greater self-esteem, be able to get a good job and provide for themselves and their families. This will also mean less unemployment, less crime, less dependency and a reduction in a host of other ills which are prevalent in our community.

Therefore our schools and the education they are giving our children are critically important. They will play a major role in the strengthening of our families and the rebuilding of our communities.

In an effort to both demonstrate how important the schools are and our commitment to see that our children get a good education, the Million Man March Southern Coalition has designated December 11-15 as "Save Our Schools Week."

During this week parents are asked to make a special effort to visit their children's schools and find out how their children are doing. Men are especially asked to visit the schools.

Let us emphasize how important it is that parents visit their children's schools this week. We in the African-American community hear so much about our lack of participation with the schools, that we do not attend open houses, PTO meetings or schedule

conferences with teachers. In large measure this criticism has been true.

Since the Million Man March questions have been raised about whether or not it will make a difference. This is an opportunity to show this state that it has made a difference. Our showing up at our children's schools will send a message around the state that we are committed to our children and their education.

Most parents are at work during the day and it will be difficult for them to attend the schools. But if possible ask your employer if you can take an hour or an hour and a half off to attend your child's school. Tell the employers what we are trying to do.

Those who work for the federal, state, county or municipal government hopefully will not have much difficulty. Show your boss this column. If he or she is helpful. Those who cannot get this may want to use your lunch break. But please try to get to

school. Go to the office and sign in first.

It is our hope that school administrators will be accommodating of this effort and make it restrictive for parents to come in. Parents should come to the office, sign in, meet the administrators, teachers and other staff. So as not to interrupt classes, maybe parents could sit or stand in the back to observe the class and see what students are learning.

The schools may also have information to give parents as to how they can become more involved. It is just an effort to criticize, attack or challenge but to strengthen the partnership between home and school to help our children.

This is only a first step as it relates to our schools and our children's education. It is our prayers that this first step will be the beginning of many to improve our schools and our children's education. It will make a world of difference in their lives and our homes and communities.

Supreme court can't blunt black vote



by Ayia Muhammad

The Supreme Court this week heard oral arguments concern-

ing the use of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to assure black representation in Congress. It is a Court more skeptical of the need for government methods to compensate for past rampant racial discrimination. It is a Court which is deluded by the myth of obtaining a true "colorblind" American society.

Teacups—Bush vs. Verrin Texas, and Shaw vs. Hunt in North Carolina—beg the fundamental question: can state officials justify Congressional redistricting along racial lines? If so, how seriously? Earlier this year in a similar Georgia case, the Court said no.

The Court's only black member, Justice Clarence Thomas, was the deciding vote against his "homeland" black districts.

Wally's truly ironic in that case, according to incumbent Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-GA), is that Justice McKinney (D-GA), is that Justice McKinney (D-GA) has "a sister on welfare" in Savannah, GA, in her now-abolished district. The inference of course is that Justice McKinney's sister probably voted for Rep. McKinney (and would hopefully influence her recalcitrant brother) even if she did it!

I wouldn't count on the Court being any more compassionate in these new cases than before. What angry whites in these admittedly oddly configured districts are arguing against is

what they call unconstitutional voluntary segregation, or "balkanization" of voters along racial lines.

In other words, if blacks just happen to live together in massive ghettos (as we do in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia and other urban centers) forming "contiguous" Congressional districts, then, that's okay. But if we live in the deep South where we are dispersed more widely (still segregated into tinier ghettos) in smaller communities, then we don't qualify to have black Congressional representatives.

This white reaction is reminiscent of the backlash against black dorms and other separate social arrangements African-American students prefer at predominantly white colleges and universities.

The sad fact of the matter is that the thousands and thousands and thousands of black elected officials all over the country, probably no more than a dozen represent majority white districts. In Congress, only four (including one member who retired in 1994) blacks have represented majority white districts in modern times to the 1990 Census redistricting, which resulted in a dozen new African Americans in Congress in 1992, in the states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama. Blacks are black only 30-35 percent of the total population,

blacks accounted for zero percent of the Congressional delegations.

There is no such thing as a "colorblind" America. I am frankly annoyed by the "conservative" whites—who would have been labeled segregationists during his lifetime—now quoting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s reference to "content of character" versus color of skin. The only time "conservatives" want colorblind, "race neutral" standards is when blacks stand to benefit from "race consciousness," as in affirmative action programs, or in this case political power.

Rather than hypocritically embracing one tiny quote from the years of public service rendered by Dr. King, I prefer to remember that in this case political power, a defining milestone in his career: the start of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. In that instance beginning Dec. 1, 1955 with the arrest of Sister Rosa Parks, Dr. King led a determined black riot/rally which resolved to walk everywhere they had to go and to organize car pools, rather than ride the segregated public transportation system. A year after black's resoundingly "voted with their feet," the bus company relented.

Beginning 80 years ago, African Americans voted with their feet in a

See BLACK VOTE page 10

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Governor Whitman's image problem

by Julian K. Robinson



It is rumored that a very small group of Governor Whitman die-hard African-American supporters gathered in the Governor's Newark office on a Friday morning in late October. Their agenda listed only one item. How to improve Whitman's image in New Jersey's African-American community.

Given the monumental size of

that particular task, it's inconceivable why only a few hours and a few people, rather than a full weekend with a larger staff, was devoted to the project.

And the crowning irony of the meeting is that the Governor's Secretary of State Lonna Hooks is on record opposing such a separate focus on blacks in her own high profile role in the Whitman administration. At least she was so quoted in *The New York Times* in May 1994.

With an eye now focused on the Governor's probable '97 re-election effort, Hooks is apparently back-pedaling to assemble a list of black priorities... a list that many, including my-

self, feel should have been developed before Whitman's 93 victory and continually in her face ever since.

Such a list would have required little imagination in the Whitman camp. In his first term Governor Whitman's record on race and ethnic issues regarding black priorities could have been excerpted verbatim from several letters to Governor Whitman and other administration members, including Hooks, during late '93 and early '94.

The authors, all Whitman campaign supporters, included this writer as well as others of Legacy (the New Jersey Highway Authority's minority employees' organization) and the

chairman of the Coalition of Minority Employees of New Jersey Autonomous Agencies.

It is sadly significant and symptomatic of Whitman's poor relationship with blacks that the first of the above letters were ever answered or even acknowledged. Ultimately, however, the Governor did respond favorably to one of our suggestions by appointing the first African-American judge to the New Jersey Supreme Court. The appointment followed an intensive public letter-writing campaign, including my letters to editors

See IMAGE PROBLEM page 10

YOUTH BEAT

KID CALENDAR

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

WESTFIELD—Building a Cookie and Candy Holiday House. Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County 4-H Program will hold this workshop at 7-8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-654-9854.

THRU DECEMBER 17

MONTCLAIR—Gifted and talented youth classes at Montclair State University from 8:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more info call 201-655-4104/4250.

Santa's favorite snack gets an update for the 90s

CEDAR KNOLLS—What can Santa expect to find waiting for him under the Christmas tree this holiday season?

According to the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council, Inc. one thing is certain: chances are good that the milk left for St. Nick will be a reduced-fat variety.

Compared to 25 years ago, Santa most likely received whole milk at 70 percent of the homes he visited. The good news is that almost all U.S. households—99 percent to be exact—routinely buy milk, sohere's a little chance that the jolly old fellow will miss out on his favorite beverage and he will have the energy he needs to make his rounds!

As for the cookies, anything goes. From Oreos to Snackwells, old Saint Nick will be happy.

Make the holiday season a special one, help someone less fortunate than your self.

Kwanzaa celebration for children at SOB's

NEW YORK, NY—Sounds Of the harvest" is a unique Afro-Brazil (SOB) is hosting a four-day Kwanzaa celebration and workshop especially for children.

Educational and entertaining, the workshops are designed by Babunde Olatunji, world renowned cultural ambassador and humanitarian to teach principles and history of Kwanzaa and also introduce elements of traditional African song and dance.

The Festival will last from Tuesday to Friday, December 26 to 28 from noon to 3 p.m. each day.

Designed for children of all ages, the Kwanzaa workshop is a holiday feast for the eyes, ears, body and mind, and includes a heartwarming performance by Olatunji.

Coinciding with the workshops, S.O.B.'s will also have a hands on Kwanzaa Marketplace exhibiting African instruments, traditional textiles, the foods of Kwanzaa, a special Kinara-making booth and much more.

Kwanzaa, Swahili for "first fruits

through centuries of African song and dance. Celebrated from December 26 through January 1, Kwanzaa is based upon seven principles:

- Umoja—unity
- Kujichagulia—self determination
- Ujima—ork & responsibility
- Ujamaa—economic cooperation
- Nia—purpose
- Kuniu—creativity
- Imani—faith.

The family unit discusses one principle each day and lights a candle of the Kinara in observance.

receive a unique message. To send a letter and gift from Santa, contributions should be made out to the Arthritis Foundation, and mailed along with the child's name, address, age and sex to: Santa's Village, Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter, 496 N. Kings Highway, Suite 222, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034.

For more information call the office nearest you, 609-482-0600, 908-283-4300 or 201-986-0100. All proceeds will benefit the New Jersey Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation.

Santa offers special treat for children

CHERRY HILL—This Christmas, why not surprise a child with a personalized letter from Santa? The Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter will send a special message from Santa to children whose families make a contribution to help people with arthritis.

For a \$4 donation per child, the Chapter will send a personalized letter and small gift from Santa to any child designated by the donor. Different letters and gifts are available so that children in the same family

receive a unique message. To send a letter and gift from Santa, contributions should be made out to the Arthritis Foundation, and mailed along with the child's name, address, age and sex to: Santa's Village, Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter, 496 N. Kings Highway, Suite 222, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034.

For more information call the office nearest you, 609-482-0600, 908-283-4300 or 201-986-0100. All proceeds will benefit the New Jersey Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation.



New Jersey Ballet celebrates 25 years of the Nutcracker

WEST ORANGE—New Jersey Ballet and Paper Mill Playhouse will celebrate a quarter century of artistic partnership when the Ballet begins its 25th anniversary run of the Nutcracker on Thursday, December 14th. (Above) A scene from the Nutcracker depicts the exciting duel between the Nutcracker and the Mouse King. The play will run until December 27.

Photo by Joseph Savarini

Greeting cards support education

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—A special Opportunity to share the rich heritage of African-American culture and help provide a college education to deserving students is once again available through The Card Shop's Holiday Card Program.

Sold only on a seasonal basis, profits from card sales help support the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship fund, offering four-year scholarships to the 37 historically black colleges.

The Afro-centric, high quality cards are designed to be used in a variety of settings and offer styles appropriate to business or personal use. Vibrant symbols and images are woven into unique designs that evoke the past, yet reflect the best of contemporary African-American culture. For information on purchasing Holiday Cards or conducting a fund-raiser call the Card Shop at 1-800-975-GIVE.

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Custom Computerized Services (CCS),

a family operated Plainfield based company has developed a literacy program called "Fun to Read" which utilizes personalized books for beginning readers in preschool and kindergarten.

Since we at feel that reading is one of the greatest gifts that can be passed on to children, we decided to set up a sponsorship program.

On Wednesday, December 20, 1995, CCS along with 14 sponsors will present 35 reading books and 30 personalized coloring books to children attending the Black United Fund HHS Preschool in Plainfield.

CCS would like to thank the following merchants and individuals for their sincere concern for the welfare of our children who are the future of America.

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PARK AVE CLEANERS "THE CLEANEST SPOT IN TOWN" 201-772-0111 SIGNED BY APPOINTMENT 908-738-1111 FAX 908-738-1127	MA. FELIX MITCHELL DEDICATED TO WRITE AND EDUCATE 	JOHN McNEILSON 100 EAST 4TH STREET PLAINFIELD, NJ 08060 	JOHN McNEILSON 100 EAST 4TH STREET PLAINFIELD, NJ 08060
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BY-LAWS STONE SQUARE LODGE No. 38 P.O. Box 100 Plainfield, New Jersey PRINCE HALL AFFILIATION	Community Oriented Fire Fighters for 	JOHN McNEILSON 100 EAST 4TH STREET PLAINFIELD, NJ 08060 	JOHN McNEILSON 100 EAST 4TH STREET PLAINFIELD, NJ 08060

We thank all of our sponsors for their support

HEALTH CALENDAR

MONTHLY

UNION—HIV/AIDS Caregiver support group every 2nd and 4th Thursday at Union Hospital GRAND Center 10:30 a.m. For more info call 908-686-3117.

ATTENTION:

PLAINFIELD—Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center offers community health education classes and support groups for cancer, childbirth, Lameza, diabetes, etc. For more info call 908-686-2000.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

WESTFIELD—TB, AIDS, STDs and Hepatitis. Medical Complications of Drug and Alcohol Misuse. Taught by Patricia O'Brien, RN, C. CAC. For further course info call 908-233-9810.

RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

THRU DECEMBER 17

ASBURY PARK—"Tambourines to Glory," by Langston Hights presented by Dunbar Repertory Company and Saint Augustine's Episcopal Church. For ticket info call 908-774-2069.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

PLAINFIELD—Walkabout. Clearwater Chorus will be performing at the Village Celebration of Hope, at Plainfield's Grace Episcopal Church. For more info call 201-785-9102.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

PLAINFIELD—Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church presents its annual Christmas Carol Program at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. For more info call 908-756-2468.

Lights on for life

WESTFIELD—In a symbolic nationwide observance to focus attention on the impaired driving issue, National Council (NADD) on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Union County is joining law enforcement, businesses, government agencies and private citizens throughout the United States in keeping their vehicle headlights on as they drive during the day on Friday, December 15.

The observance is dubbed "Lights On For Life" in remembrance of persons killed and injured in alcohol-related crashes. The event is part of National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, held in December, which has been designated in Union County by the Chokeb Road of Freeholders.

Law enforcement, anti-DWI groups and others are participating in various activities throughout December to call attention to the continued impaired driving problem in the country which resulted in 16,000 deaths last year.

"This observance is important because with all the parties and celebrations during the holidays, impaired drivers are always a problem," says Gladys Kearns, NCADD executive director. "This event will help to focus attention on the impaired driving issue and hopefully prevent people from getting behind the wheel after drinking."

"Lights On For Life" is sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and a coalition of government, corporate, and advocacy groups.

EAST ORANGE—"Make a Difference Day" celebrated nationally during the last week of October has come and gone. But the quilt of one tradition has continued to make an indelible mark on the lives of so many is alive in the City of East Orange.

"This is a story about the rarely recognized quiet contributions of the guardians of the crossroads and curbsides—the East Orange school crossing guards. They wait. They watch. Standing every ready to protect the children.

Every winter, since 1953 when the city first began using crossing guards, they have braved harsh and chilling temperatures as they guide countless children to curbside safety battling fierce winter winds, torrid rain, and the humidity of early summer.

Wearing bright yellow striped orange indecent vests the city's school crossing guards protect the little ones who cannot protect themselves. In the coldest months, when the children have safely reached their destination, they retreat to the warmth of the closest neighborhood store, a narrow doorway offers refuge and sometimes there is no place to duck.

Affectionately called "Jackie" by both colleagues and pedestrian travelers, one 37 year veteran, Jacquelyn

McGhee has helped cross generations of elementary school children and watched them blossom into adulthood.

McGhee gleamed in delight as she fondly remembered some of the three generations of the students she has crossed. "Oh, there have been so many. I have crossed Naughty by Nature's Vinnie Brown, Jimmy Baker who sings with Whitney Houston, the Kelshaw brothers now East Orange police officers, and arson investigation specialist Bobby Larson of the East Orange Fire Department."

Assigned to the corner of Dodd and Midland in 1959, Jackie's infectious smile, strong and assertive gait coupled with her genuine interest in people has won a permanent place in the hearts of everyone she encounters. "The best part of my job has always been the hugs, smiles and the children themselves. And of course the worst part is the weather, but you learn to deal with it and to dress for every season," she added.

"The role of the city's crossing guards has proven to be an invaluable service. Their commitment far exceeds the traditional job description. Gently rendering large doses of "grandparents love" with a rich and loving spirit," Mayor Cooper said. Some motorists in their haste,

have been known to ignore crossing guards instructions. And during the brutal winter when sidewalks are blocked by high snow mounds, the guards physically lift the children over the mounds to safety.

McGhee has received numerous awards and citations. The East Orange Status of Women honored her for "Outstanding Service to the Community in early '91. In the fall of the same year she was named one of the "Jewels of the City." She is a member of Holy Spirit Our Lady of Help Christian Church and an usher in the Rotary Society.

For three decades, one veteran crossing guard has been on the job and has no plans to retire—at least—as long as her legs hold up. There are 144 part-time crossing guards in the city who report to the East Orange Police Department's Traffic Unit.

"East Orange is a secret garden filled with special people. In a world where the good news travels less than the bad news does, it is refreshing to know our crossing guards are special people and do make a difference," Cooper said.



Crossing guard Jackie assist a student across the road.

Community Access gala a success



ELIZABETH—Rahway Councilman Chester Holmes, Jr. is joined by Community Access Executive Director Sid Blanchard (c) and Waverly Kent Johnson Community Access Board of directors trustee at the recent 18th annual gala held at L'Affaire in Mountainside. Over 500 people attended the event. Community access serves teens and adults with disabilities to function and live independently in their own communities.

Newark distributes brochure on lead and drinking water

NEWARK—"The menace is silent, odorless, very dangerous and it could be in your home; the culprit is lead. It does pose a health risk, but the City of Newark's Department of Water and Sewer Utilities said that the threat can easily be abated.

The municipal agency will distribute its brochure, *Lead In Your Drinking Water*, to warn residents about the dangers of consuming lead-tainted water. The pamphlet includes information provided by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), City officials noted. For further information on receiving the brochures, call 201-733-3654.

Make this a safe holiday season, don't drink and drive

Surviving the Holiday Eat-A-Thon

WASHINGTON, DC—At the office, boxes of holiday cookies and candy invite you to help yourself. At home, you've got a shelf full of baked goods from friends and relatives... party buffers abound with sweets and high-fat treats... and your mother expects you to eat every bite of those creamed onions she made especially for you.

Feel like you've lost the battle against holiday fat and calories before you've even taken the first bite? Here are a few tips from the American Institute for Cancer Research to help you eat sensibly and keep your weight under control while still enjoying some of your favorite holiday treats.

First, remember to communicate. If you're visiting a relative or friend who usually pressures you to eat a lot, tell them before they do any meal planning that you don't want to go overboard this year. Compromise by just eating a few bites of your favorite high-fat dishes while you fill up on lots of whole grains, fruits and vegetables prepared without much fat.

Many people who cook for the holidays have an idealized vision of a table laden with high-fat, rich foods. But in reality, dad needs to watch his cholesterol, mom needs to keep her arthritis in check by watching her weight, and the kids need nutritious meals and snacks to balance out the richer foods they're eating more of during the holidays.

Adjust traditional recipes by leaving a good part of the fat out. Your meal will taste just as good and most people won't notice the difference. Omit the fat from stuffing, use less in some baked goods, defat gravy by cooling pan drippings until you can skim the fat off the top or buy one of those inexpensive gravy defatifiers available in kitchen stores. You can also flavor things with bouillon, fruit juices and herbs.

Some other ways to survive the annual holiday eat-a-thon include:

Christmas dinners delivered to seniors

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange Division of Senior Citizens will be delivering home made Christmas dinners to individuals who are disabled or unable to leave their home. To have a meal delivered to seniors please contact the City of East Orange Division of Senior Citizens at 201-266-5226.

Eating slowly and savoring each bite so that you are satisfied with more moderate portions. When it comes to a chocolate torte or a cream sauce, the tenth bite rarely tastes as good as the first.

Have a low-calorie snack like fruit and low-fat crackers before you go to a party where there will be high-calorie foods so you don't arrive at the party hungry. When you get there, survey your options ahead of time. At a buffet, look things over and choose moderate portions of what you really want to taste rather than loading your plate with everything.

Get some exercise before or after a holiday meal by taking a walk or doing some other form of exercise.

Fill up on lower-fat items like bread, rolls, bread sticks, crackers, and raw veggies. In addition to helping you moderate portions of high-fat foods, drinking low-calorie beverages like tomato juice or club soda with lime can also help you minimize the calories that add up from drinking alcoholic beverages.

Plan ahead and make a few trade-offs, like deciding you'll have a couple of cookies at work instead of eating a high-calorie dessert at dinner that night.

Offer to bring something if you're going to a holiday party or dinner party. But make it low-fat dish and/or non-alcoholic beverages.

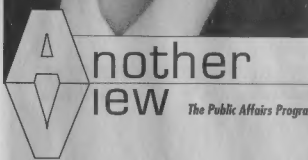
Finally, keep holiday foods in perspective by viewing them as special treats to eat in moderation rather than the only foods you'll eat between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. Several special dinners or celebrations can be balanced with other meals that are low-fat and reasonably low in calories.

For a free brochure of tips to help you eat a healthy diet between holiday events, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the American Institute for Cancer Research, Dept. TT, Washington, DC 20069.

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Karen Smyles
Host



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ARTZ WEDNESDAY

BILLBOARD

All-star cast appears in *Waiting to Exhale*

Four women, all friends, are waiting.

Meet Savannah, Bernadine, Robin and Gloria. For years, Savannah's been asking God to send her a decent man. Instead, she got the two-timing Lionel and the very married Kenneth. "God's got a lot of explaining to do," Savannah concludes.

Bernadine, on the other hand, is focusing her energies on something closer to home, like her about-to-be ex-husband who has left her for his bookkeeper. Bernadine's initial response is decisive—but the local fire department isn't happy about it; she sends his expensive wardrobe—and car—up in flames just outside her home.

If love is a two-way street, then Robin's been on a dirt road. In the business world, Robin is as smart as they come, but on the subject of men, she loses all common sense. However, like her friends, she's determined to find "the real thing."

At least for Gloria, who's gained more than a few pounds in the last year, things are looking up. With a son about to go off to Europe, Gloria is poised to embark on a new relationship with her neighbor who, thank goodness, "likes his women with a little meat on their bones."



The cast of *Waiting to Exhale*. (l to r) Loretta Devine (Gloria), Whitney Houston (Savannah), Angela Bassett (Bernadine), and Lela Rochon as Robin.

Photo by Steven S. Weisberg

Waiting to Exhale, the provocative motion picture based on the acclaimed best-seller of the same name by Terry McMillan, tells the story of these four incredible women who journey through a modern labyrinth of husbands and lovers, jobs and makeovers, searching for that someone good enough to make them gasp.

Guiding this impressive cast is director Forest Whitaker. The producers are Erza Swerdlow and Deborah Schindler. The screenplay is by Terry McMillan and Academy Award-winning screenwriter Ronald Bass (Rainman), who also serve as executive producers with original music by Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds.

Newark Jazz Festival something to remember

by Connie Woodruff

The fifth annual Newark Jazz Festival has come and gone but the memory and the melodies that filled the town linger on, reminding us that music is the universal word for love.

What was there not to love about the stars who came to town to share their talent and showmanship with jazz aficionados?

What was there not to love about Ahmad Jamal, piano genius, the lush voice of Gloria Lynne, saxophonist Stanley Turrentine and the always spectacular all-star jazz jam that is the spectacular ending to every festival?

One of the highlights of the week was the concert featuring New Jersey Jazz Divas Ronnel Bey, Rastineen, Shirley Marshall, Rasheeda and Pat Tandy. The ladies outdid themselves with the Bradford Hayes Quintet for backup.

Rasheeda proved to be the most jazz oriented with a sensuous *Honey-suckle Rose*, swinging into a jazz beat *Autumn Leaves* and her version of *I Remember April* as a ballad.

Ronnel Bey, wearing African-inspired garb, was entertaining with a medley of African blues before launching into her signature, *Our Love Is Here to Stay*.

Pat Tandy won hands down as the

R & B warbler turning on the heat with an up-tempo *Misty* and *If/Should Love You* while Rasheeda (a dance teacher at Essex County College) and Shirley Turner made us fall in love again with some nostalgic for-lovers-only romantic tunes.

Lunch times were entertained in cafes at One Newark Center, PSE&G Terrace Room and in the Rotunda at City Hall where Carrie Jackson and a quartet with Radium Schwartz, Bradford Hayes, Chris White and Curtis Johnson vied for attention.

As the festival wound down to a precious few hours veteran singer Little Jimmy Scott was presented with the sponsoring group's first "All That Jazz" Award.

It was a fitting tribute to and recognition of the singer whose career blossomed in many Newark nightclubs a few decades back when the city came to life every night after dark.

The voice is slightly changed but the style's the same and to prove it, at the raucous clamor of the capacity crowd in the Robert Treat Hotel ballroom, Jimmy swung into one of his oldies but goodies, *All of Me*.

To the delight of the audience, Rhoda Scott, one of the world's truly great organists and a former Newark entertainer was in the audience and graciously consented to accompany the singer with whom she has shared stage and spotlight many times.

National poetry contest opens to all

OWINGS MILLS, MD.—The National Poetry Library has announced that \$24,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest. The contest is open to everyone in entry is free. Deadline for the contest is December 31.

To enter send one original poem, any subject and any style to The National Library of Poetry, 14149 Cronridge Dr., PO Box 704-1986, Owings Mills, MD. 21117. Poems should be no more than 230 lines, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. A new contest opens on January 1, 1996.

Your Heart's in Good Hands with Al Green

He has been called "the quintessential soul man," and certainly Al Green's highly distinctive vocal style has not only assured him a permanent place in contemporary music but has inspired a whole generation of younger singers. An eight-time Grammy winner and inductee into The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Al has been thrilling audiences the world over with his emotive blend of gospel and R&B for close to three decades now.

As testimony to his talent, his new album for MCA Records, *Your Heart's in Good Hands*, he's sounding better than ever.

Talking about the album's lyrical theme, Al, who co-wrote six of

the albums ten tracks, notes, "Love is the message... and the message is love. After eighteen years of recording gospel music, this album is a continuation of who I am musically. Whenever I've done shows, I've had to include his like *Let's Stay Together*, and *Tired of Being Alone* because that's what the people want to hear. Green stated, "My gospel audiences know that I was in this business before I started recording gospel. When it came time to do a new album, I thought, 'love is a good thing—I can sing about that and that's what I did all through this record.'"

From the upbeat *One Love* to the



laid, *Your Love*, Al's new album fuses '70's Memphis sensibility with '90's rhythms and grooves. The result is truly emotionally satisfying; tunes like "Love Is A Beautiful Thing" (which makes lyrical references to many of Al's classic '70s hits) and "What Does It Take" typify the creative approach taken on *Your Heart's in Good Hands*.

Need a mortgage or refinancing on a low to moderate income? The Mighty Hudson can save you thousands of dollars.

Hudson City Savings Bank has a long standing tradition of concern for the people in the communities it serves, including those with low to moderate incomes. This can now work to your advantage if you apply for your mortgage or refinancing at Hudson City Savings Bank.

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cupied dwelling in one of the counties shown in the listing below. Private mortgage insurance (PMI) is required on loans over 80% of our appraised value.

To make it even easier to gain approval, Hudson City will apply less rigid qualifying standards and lack of an established credit history will not disqualify you—provided, of course, you can prove your credit worthiness and ability to repay the debt.

To apply, phone the Mortgage Origination Department at 201-967-1900 or 609-428-2740. Your new home may be just a phone call away!



TO QUALIFY, APPLICANT'S INCOME CANNOT EXCEED THE FIGURES LISTED BELOW FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROPERTY YOU INTEND TO PURCHASE IS LOCATED.

Bergen	\$42,160	Monmouth	\$36,320
Burlington	\$33,120	Morris	\$39,520
Camden	\$33,120	Ocean	\$36,320
Essex	\$39,520	Passaic	\$42,160
Gloucester	\$33,120	Somerset	\$43,680
Hudson	\$28,240	Union	\$39,520
Middlesex	\$43,680	Warren	\$30,880

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Business Calendar

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14
NEWARK—International Business Overbreakfast, sponsored by the RBP, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. at the Newark Club. For info call 201-242-6237.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15
SOMERVILLE—Rattian Valley Community College Center for International Business & Education presents: New Jersey Business Opportunities in the Mexican Market Two Views Long & Short Term Issues. Congressman Richard Zimmer will be the guest speaker.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19
NEWARK—Starting and Managing Your Own Business, sponsored by SBAS/GCIE 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$15. For info call 201-645-6084.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20
NEWARK—Technical Assistance Seminar (3 sponsored by NJ Transit and Parsons Brinckerhoff International Business & Education presents: New Jersey Business Opportunities in the Mexican Market Two Views Long & Short Term Issues. Congressman Richard Zimmer will be the guest speaker.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21
NEWARK—Holiday Breakfast meeting sponsored by NJAWEIO, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. at the Newark Club. For info call 201-645-6084.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26
HOBOKEN—Business and Professional Mixer. Network with others in your field or related fields and develop professional contacts. For more info call 201-788-1244.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30
IRVINGTON—Black Man's Business Networking Kwanzaa Celebration. Dr. Lerwyn Guthrie speaker. For info call 201-734-4068.

JANUARY 6 & 11
PARANCI—Look for Success sponsored by Mary Kay, 5:15 p.m. For info call 201-251-7990.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12
NEW BRUNSWICK—Rutgers conference on business, school partnerships at the Hyatt Regency, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For info call 908-445-2071.

CAMDEN—Doing Business with Government and the New Start Organization, sponsored by RBCSD, 9:15 a.m. For info call 609-226-8212.

Black-owned sportswear offers franchising opportunities

by Juvius R. Stanton

It's no secret that young African Americans are the fashion and cultural trend setters in America and around the world. Be it music, dance, fashion or popular culture, whatever is considered in hip or hot, black people are the first to do or wear it.

However, we as African Americans rarely cash in on our creativity. For example African Americans are the main purchasers of athletic footwear and sporting apparel, helping to make it a \$30 billion business.

For all that retail setting, less than one percent of these sales can be traced to African-American owned manufacturers or retail establishments.

Enter Marvin Brown and Derrick Brockman, two young African Americans with vision, social consciousness and a business concept with tremendous growth potential—athletic apparel and sportswear retail franchises for African Americans.

Together with Al Patrone they formed Foot Stop Enterprises, Limited and the company has not only plunged into the lucrative athletic footwear and sports apparel retail market, but is taking the product directly to the end consumers, African Americans.

Foot Stop is just another small time minority business, it has big time aspirations with a strategy and marketing plan that is "made to order."

"Our first priority is to go out and find the different kinds of financing that can be used to help a potential entrepreneur who might not have the means to finance [and] who would need some type of support to find different organizations that were out there," explained Brown, president of the company.

Currently Foot Stop has six locations in Philadelphia and Coatesville, PA; Wilmington, DE; Largo and Baltimore, MD. A new store opened in October in Baltimore and two stores are planned for the Atlanta area by early 1996.

The company hopes to have at least 10 stores per state. Currently it

is in negotiation with a well-known professional athlete to open a store in Knoxville, Tenn. Other African-American athletes are also expressing interest in the concept.

Unlike other franchises operators, Foot Stop offers its franchisees a full suite of support to ensure their success. Brockman, company vice president responsible for business development and marketing, has formulated ways to facilitate the application, financial statement and financing processes.

Foot Stop's management team provides attentive hands-on support in legal assistance, accounting, inventory control (the whole system is connected to a central computer system which tracks inventory, individual outlet sales, analyzes data and forecasts regional trends), management assistance training, marketing, advertisement and operational assistance.

"We go right with the franchisee in terms of helping him put together his overall loan proposal and bid package that goes out to the various banks. We've already spoken with most of the majors in the major cities up and down the eastern seaboard, so we're structuring ourselves to be successful in the political and financial climates in those areas we have every thing in place," elaborated Brockman.

The most unique feature of Foot Stop Enterprises is that each franchising is required to give back to the community in which he or she operates by creating jobs, sponsoring educational programs, youth athletic programs and forming scholarship funds.

"We feel it is important to set a standard and precedent to our youth who are looking to get involved in an industry like this, or to become an entrepreneur. We can't be afraid to do business in our own communities. This is a great business opportunity and it is also an opportunity to be a part of the community, to be a resource to that community," stressed Brown.

LEGALS

INVITATION FOR BID

The Housing Authority of the City of Paterson will receive sealed bids for the following:

CONVERSION OF INCINERATORS TO COMPOSTERS AT FARLEY TOWERS-NJ 34 AND FORD LEONARD TOWERS-NJ 34

The Bid Opening will be at 10:00 a.m. (prevaling time) on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1996** in the Conference Room of the Housing Authority of the City of Paterson, 60 Van Housen Street, Paterson, New Jersey 07652. NO LATE BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Bidding documents, including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Administrative Office, 688 Maple Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey 07652. A fee of \$25.00 must be paid to the Administrative Office to obtain the bidding documents.

A **PRE-BID CONFERENCE** will be held at 10:00 a.m. on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1995** in the **COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF FARLEY TOWERS-NJ 34** at 60 Van Housen Street, Paterson, New Jersey 07652. The deadline for the pre-bid conference is 10:00 a.m.

The Housing Authority of the City of Paterson reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

A bid must be accompanied by a bid bond in the amount of not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the total bid. At the option of the bidder, the guaranty may be certified check, bank draft, U.S. Government Bond (at current date market value) or a bid bond secured by Guaranty or Surety Company. Performance and Completion Bonds will be required of the successful bidder.

Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) will be offered full opportunity to bid and will not be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex or national origin in consideration of award.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PATERSON
FELIX RAYMOND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FE# 894.90

RECYCLING CONTAINERS
NJ2-1, Riverside at Terrace Development
NJ2-2, Riverside at Terrace Development
NJ2-3, Riverside at Terrace Development
NJ2-4, Riverside at Terrace Development
NJ2-5, Riverside at Terrace Development

Bidders are to submit bids in sealed envelopes to be opened at 10:00 a.m. on **Monday, December 18, 1995** at the Housing Authority of the City of Paterson, 60 Van Housen Street, Paterson, New Jersey 07652. The following information is being provided to the bidders:

The Housing Authority of the City of Paterson reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PATERSON
FELIX RAYMOND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FE# 894.90

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Sleep Apnea: it's no way to sleep

If you snore, chances are that your family has teased you about it. You may even laugh about it yourself. But for many people, loud, "industrial-strength" snoring may indicate a very unhealthy problem called sleep apnea.

About 10 million Americans have this sleep disorder, which causes them to stop breathing during sleep — sometimes 30 or more times an hour throughout the night, for as long as 10 seconds each time.

People who have sleep apnea may not know it, but they probably have symptoms pointing to the problem. Heavy-duty snoring is the most common symptom (although not everyone who snores has sleep apnea).

In addition to snoring, symptoms include being extremely tired during the day and falling asleep at inappropriate times — like when talking on the phone, or drinking a cup of coffee, or even while driving. People who suffer from sleep apnea are often irritable or depressed. They are also more likely to be involved in accidents on the job because they are so tired.

What exactly happens in sleep apnea? Most often, the throat muscles relax and become floppy and floppy, partially block the opening of the airway leading from the nose down the back of the throat.

When the airway is blocked, breathing becomes difficult and noisy. In an effort to get oxygen, the person gasps, chokes — and actually wakes up without even knowing it. This happens over and over during the night, and the frequent awakenings deprive the person of restful sleep.

Sleep apnea most often appears in middle age; about four percent of

men and two percent of women in their middle years have this condition. It is also more likely to occur in people who are seriously overweight and in those who have high blood pressure.

If this condition sounds familiar to you, it's important to get help from your doctor or a sleep specialist. If you are diagnosed with sleep apnea, you have several treatment options. There are things you can do for yourself that may help. If you're overweight, losing weight should help. Sleeping with your head and shoulders slightly elevated may also be beneficial. It is also important to get regular physical activity and to avoid alcohol and sedatives before going to bed.

Another approach is to use a nasal or dental device while you sleep. The most commonly used device is worn over the nose, and provides continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) during sleep.

The CPAP mask is hooked by a tube to a machine that forces air through the nose. The amount of air pressure can be adjusted so that it is just enough to keep the airway open. CPAP may sound a little complicated, but many people who use it wouldn't dream of giving it up. "After the first night (on CPAP), I felt like a million bucks and my wife said it was the most restful night we've had," said one user.

A small number of patients may need surgery. However, no surgery for sleep apnea is 100 percent effective or risk-free.

Treatment is not only important for your quality of sleep. It also can help you avoid the serious health problems associated with sleep ap-

nea. For example, people with sleep apnea are at increased risk for hypertension, coronary heart disease, stroke and even early death.

To examine the extent of these risks, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) has just launched the Sleep Heart Health study at 17 medical centers throughout the country. The NHLBI is currently seeking 6,000 volunteers for the study.

For more information, call the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research at (301) 435-0199. To learn more about sleep apnea, contact the NHLBI Information Center, P.O. Box 30105, Bethesda, Md., 20824-0105.

Resolution

Continued from page 1

men and women, more specifically men to go into the schools of the communities and make their presence felt — visit the schools whether you have children in the schools or not — attend PTA meetings and board of education meetings.

The LOC will also begin weekly voter registration. A booth will be set up at Jerry's Barber Shop, at the corner of Bond and Jackson Avenues, in Elizabeth, beginning Saturday, December 16th at 1 p.m. For information contact Chris Wilson at 908-355-0670 after 3 p.m., or Mt. Teman A.M.E. Church at 351-2625 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Gingrich

Continued from page 1

Speaker Wright of exploiting his office for financial gain over a book deal.

Recently, the House Ethics Committee announced that it had unanimously — both Republicans and Democrats — found Speaker Newt Gingrich guilty of ethical violations on three counts.

He committee said it would seek an outside counsel to investigate the questionable financing of a college course that Gingrich taught on televi-

sion. It also said the teaching of the college course had ties to other illegal GOPAC activities.

House Minority Whip David Bonior (D-MI) responded immediately saying, "We have always said that Newt Gingrich's path to power was paved with a corrupt mix of secret contributions, hidden campaign spending and political payoffs to multimillion-dollar donors who had a direct interest in federal legislation."

Mfume heads NAACP

Continued from page 1

"financial, political and spiritual health to the Civil Rights organization."

Mfume's appointment was met with much enthusiasm from the board, in particular those who had fought for a change in the organization. "This is someone we admire, that we trust and that we have high hopes for to turn the organization around," said Board Chairman Myrtie Evers-Williams.

Infants

Continued from page 1

will mail information to welfare recipients through the county welfare agencies and provide information to Medicaid providers. Printed information about HIV and AZT therapy will be distributed to all Medicaid providers dealing with pregnant women.

Local pharmacies and school-based programs also will be invited to join in the outreach campaign along with other branches of state government. For additional information contact Jacqueline Teneco or John McKeegan, 609-292-3703.

The materials related were developed by the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research and include a new HOTLINE number (1-800-HIV-0440) for callers seeking information about Medicaid and other topics.

Image problem

Continued from page 4

of March 4, 1994 urging such an appointment.

If the Whitman ear is indeed again tuned to a black wavelength, the following suggestions are respectfully submitted in response to her current "image" dilemma.

The Governor and her colleagues should forget about "image" and begin concentrating on "substance." She should learn from the experience of her year-old "Many Faces-One Family" initiative. Conceived by public relations image-makers, this is totally lacking in substance and has proven, in the minds of many a colorist, to be a complete flop. I, for example, am still awaiting a response from the program's director to my written inquiry last July about a very serious problem in a New Jersey public agency.

As with the state Supreme Court last year, the time is long overdue for the appointment of the first ever African-American commissioner at the New Jersey Turnpike Authority. Whitman has thus far made four or five commission appointments at the "pike," all white.

And while effecting an important "first" at one toll road the Governor might consider appointing a second black member of the New Jersey Highway Authority which manages the Garden State Parkway. Only this time, Whitman and/or her staff should insure that all of her Republican colleagues in the Senate are on board. Last year, Bergen County Republican Gerald Cardinale invoked senatorial courtesy" to kill the nomination of an African-American woman attorney from Hackensack as a Highway Authority commissioner.

Given the callously racist manner in which Highway Authority executives recently stifled the voice of African-American employees in the employees' newspaper, a second black face at the top of that autonomous agency could conceivably breathe life and mean into the Governor's "Many Faces-One Family" hype.

One other bit of advice might help add substance to the Governor's black agenda at both toll road authorities and credence to her recent public statements in support of affirmative action. During her tenure thus far, two successive executive directors have been appointed at the Parkway and one at the Turnpike. Unfortunately, no minorities were included in any of the three potential candidates. It's time for Mrs. Whitman to suggest forcefully to the policy-makers she has designated to run both

authorities that they must begin putting some of their upper echelon salary dollars where her mouth is and theirs should be, Newt Gingrich notwithstanding.

And at the prestigious Port Authority, overseen jointly by the Governors of New Jersey and New York, Governor Whitman has twice muffed a golden opportunity for a precedent-setting appointment that could have indeed enhanced the gubernatorial image in which her associates are currently focusing their attention. Only in her terms and again recently, an African-American (and retired Republican) Port Authority commissioner with more than a decade of experience at that agency was passed over by Whitman when she chose whites with little or no Port Authority experience to the important role of chairman. The appointment of a black chairman could have exerted a welcome salutary effect on the morale of minority employees throughout the Port Authority coming as it would have on the heels of the October summary dismissal of the highest ranking African-American executive, Charles Knox, head of the Port Authority Police.

Good luck, Lonna; yours is truly a mammoth task. But don't even think about it if boss Christie visits Georgia again to shower more praise on Speaker Newt.

As I See It

Continued from page 4

promised to be a watchdog for the people. She also promised to abolish the doctrine of "business as usual" and to be accountable to the voters.

This will be a new image for Newark City Hall that's been many years in the making. At one time Newark had something called an "Image Committee" but it was short-lived. Then the mayor campaigned relentlessly for the title "Renaissance City" but lately the glitter of that noble mission has dulled considerably.

Change comes hard for the state's largest city where social and economic problems are like no other in New Jersey and where it appears the ruling political body has the last say. If Chanenfield wants to be the catalyst for change she will need more than her one vote and the chances are very slim that type of collaboration is waiting in the wings.

Mayor Candell Cooper may have a majority of the East Orange City Council on his side but the bickering goes on and on. Now community folk are getting ready to raise hell along with anti-Cooper council members.

Specifically questions are being raised as to why East Orange has the welcome mat out for four RITE AID drug stores that are being concentrated in one section of the city. More importantly, the community is interested in employment opportunities in those stores, particularly in the hiring of pharmacists who will serve the community. Mayor Cooper should be aware the natives are getting restless.



"Mama's making cornbread dressing tonight."

STOVE TOP®
Cornbread Stuffing Mix.



Serve
Stove Top
tonight and
SAVE 35¢.



The box says stuffing.
The taste says dressing.

Black vote

Continued from page 4

massive migration that brought us from the rural South to the ghettos of the urban North. Perhaps now is the time for another re-migration back to our Southern "roots," and forward into united, "contiguous," cohesive, and economically united black communities (and voting centers) which not even a unanimous vote by a hostile Supreme Court could ever disassemble again.